

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-10 /077 W

-----010325Z 016115 /73

P R 311030Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3741

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS TAIPEI 3162

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TW, US

SUBJKT: INACCURATE CNA REPORT OF AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS
IN TAICHUNG

1. LOCAL MORNING PRESS, MAY 31, WIDELY AND PROMINENTLY REPORTED A CNA VERSION OF AMBASSADOR UNGER'S REMARKS IN TAICHUNG YESTERDAY TO THE CHINA INSTITUTE IN AMERICA (CIA). ACCORDING TO CNA'S VERSION, THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT QUOTE PRESIDENT CARTER WILL FULFILL THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE SINO-AMERICAN MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY AND MAINTAIN THE SECURITY OF THE ROC UNQUOTE.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT LOCAL AFP OFFICE MAY HAVE PUT THE CNA REPORT ON ITS WIRES AS WELL.

3. COMMENT: DURING HIS INFORMAL REMARKS AT CIA RECEPTION IN HIS HONOR, THE AMBASSADOR SAID NOTHING AT ALL ABOUT THE UNCLASSIFIED

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US/ROC SECURITY RELATIONSHIP. HE DID RPT DID SAY, IN RESPONSE TO LENGTHY INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTE, THAT HE WOULD CALL THE ATTENTION OF WASHINGTON OFFICIALS TO THE PROPER CONCERNS AND INTERESTS OF THE ROC. BPAO TAICHUNG HAS TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT CNA'S INACCURATE REPORTING OF THE AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE CNA MAN COVERING THE CIA FUNCTION WAS AN INEXPERIENCED

REPORTER WHOSE UNDERSTANDING OF ENGLISH WAS POOR.

4. BPAO TAICHUNG HAS CALLED THE PROVINCIAL INFORMATION OFFICER'S ATTENTION TO THE INACCURACIES IN THE CNA STORY. BPAO UNDERSTANDS THAT GIO TAIPEI HAS ALSO BEEN NOTIFIED AND THAT LOCAL EDITORS ARE BEING ADVISED TO DROP THE STORY. IN FACT, THE STORY HAS NOT APPEARED IN THIS AFTERNOON'S PRESS AND MAY HAVE DIED.

5. IF ASKED ABOUT THE CNA REPORT, WE PLAN TO REPLY THAT NOTHING IN THE AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AT THE RECEPTION ADDRESSED THE QUESTION OF US/ROC SECURITY RELATIONSHIP. UNGER

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